

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Previously Amended) A cordless microscope comprising:
 - a stand;
 - a stage supported by the stand for holding specimens to be viewed;
 - an objective lens supported by the stand for magnifying an image of a specimen on the stage;
 - an eyepiece lens supported by the stand and coupled with the objective lens for further magnifying the image of the specimen and for permitting a user to view the image;
 - and
 - a light source assembly for illuminating the stage, the light source assembly including -
 - a circuit board, and
 - a plurality of LEDs mounted on the circuit board for projecting light toward the stage, wherein the LEDs are arranged on the circuit board in a general Y-shaped configuration.
2. (Original) The cordless microscope as set forth in claim 1, the light source assembly further including a first connector mounted on the circuit board, electrically connected with the LEDs, and configured for connecting to a battery for powering the LEDs.
3. (Original) The cordless microscope as set forth in claim 2, the light source assembly further including a second connector mounted on the circuit board and configured for connecting to a switch so as to electrically connect the switch between the battery and the LEDs for switching the LEDs between on and off states.
4. (Previously Amended) The cordless microscope as set forth in claim 3, the stand including a base in which the light source assembly is mounted and an upstanding arm on which the stage, the objective lens, and the eyepiece lens are supported.

5. (Original) The cordless microscope as set forth in claim 4, wherein the circuit board is circular in shape and configured for fitting within a circular opening in the base.

6. (Original) The cordless microscope as set forth in claim 1, wherein the circuit board is coated with a reflective material to reflect light emitted from the LEDs.

7. (Original) The cordless microscope as set forth in claim 1, wherein the light source assembly includes 4 LEDs.

8. (Original) The cordless microscope as set forth in claim 3, the light source assembly further including a third connector configured for connecting to a battery recharger for recharging the battery.

9. (Previously Amended) The cordless microscope as set forth in claim 1, wherein the structure of the LEDs produces a highly-focused angle of illumination so that most of the light from the LEDs is projected upwardly toward the stage.

10. (Original) The cordless microscope as set forth in claim 9, wherein the angle of illumination of the LEDs is approximately 20 degrees.

11. (Original) The cordless microscope as set forth in claim 4, wherein the battery is mounted within the base.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A cordless microscope comprising:
a stage for holding specimens to be viewed; and
a light source assembly for illuminating the stage, the light source assembly including -
a circuit board, and
a plurality of LEDs mounted on the circuit board for projecting light toward the stage,
wherein the light source assembly is removable and replaceable,
a first connector mounted on the circuit board, electrically connected with the LEDs,
and configured for connecting to a battery for powering the LEDs,
a second connector mounted on the circuit board and configured for connecting to a
switch so as to electrically connect the switch between the battery and the
LEDs for switching the LEDs between on and off states; and
a third connector configured for connecting to a battery recharger for recharging the
battery.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The cordless microscope as set forth in claim 13, wherein the light source assembly includes 4 LEDs.

16-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Amended) The cordless microscope as set forth in claim 13, wherein the structure of the LEDs produces a highly-focused angle of illumination so that most of the light from the LEDs is projected upwardly toward the stage..

19-25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Added) A cordless microscope comprising:

a stand;

a stage supported by the stand for holding specimens to be viewed;

an objective lens supported by the stand for magnifying an image of a specimen on the stage;

an eyepiece lens supported by the stand and coupled with the objective lens for further magnifying the image of the specimen and for permitting a user to view the image;

and

a light source assembly for illuminating the stage, the light source assembly including -

a circuit board,

a plurality of LEDs mounted on the circuit board for projecting light toward the stage, wherein the LEDs emit white light and provide over five thousand millicandellas of illumination, and

a connector mounted on the circuit board, electrically connected with the LEDs, and configured for connecting to a battery for powering the LEDs, wherein the light source assembly is operable to provide over forty hours of continuous operation of the cordless microscope.

27-28. (Canceled)